



APR 17 2000  
TECH CENTER 1000  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. PATENT  
HIRA1140

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Mukouyama et al. Art Unit: 1632  
Serial No.: 09/408,142 Examiner: Unassigned  
Filed: September 29, 1999  
Title: METHODS FOR PRODUCING L-ASPARTIC ACID

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97, enclosed are references relating to the above-identified application. A copy of a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application is enclosed. For the convenience of the Examiner, these references are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and a copy of each is enclosed herewith.

Applicants respectfully request that these references be considered in the examination of this application and their consideration be made of written record in the application file.

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 CFR §1.8	
I hereby certify that the documents referred to as enclosed herein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail on this date, April <u>10</u> , 2000, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.	
Name of Person Mailing Paper	<u>Elizabeth Perez</u>
Signature	<u>E Perez</u>

In re Application of: Mukouyama et al.  
Application No.: 09/408,142  
Filed: September 29, 1999  
Page 2

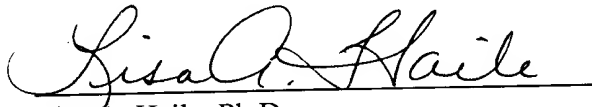
PATENT  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: **HIRA1130**

No fee is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this paper. However, if any fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the amount of this fee, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 07-1895. A copy of the Transmittal Sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

4/10/00



Lisa A. Haile, Ph.D.

Registration No. 38,347

Telephone: (858) 677-1456

Facsimile: (858) 677-1465

GRAY CARY WARE & FREIDENRICH LLP  
4365 Executive Drive, Suite 1600  
San Diego, California 92121-2189